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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,985	12/30/2003	Toru Takeuchi	TX-36203	8246

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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED  
P O BOX 655474, M/S 3999  
DALLAS, TX 75265

EXAMINER

KAPADIA, VARSHA A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2627

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/748,985	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TAKEUCHI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Varsha A. Kapadia	<b>Art Unit</b> 2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

This office action is responsive to the amendment filed on January 5, 2006.

Claims 1-21 are pending.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Klaassen et al (6,606,212).

With regards to claims 1 and 15, Klaassen et al disclose a current-sense bias circuit for use with a magnetoresistive (referred to as MR hereon) head (see figs. 3, 7-8 and disclosure thereof), comprising:

A voltage biasing portion configured to provide a bias voltage across the MR head (see col.9 lines 36-col.10 lines 26 and figs. 7-8 and disclosure thereof); and a current sensing portion coupled to the voltage biasing portion and configured to sense change in the bias current based on the resistivity change of the MR head (See fig. 3, 7-8 and disclosure thereof and col.10 line 3-17). As further recited in claim 15, Klaassen et al discloses a hard disk drive comprising a motor and a storage medium as recited in the claim (see fig.13 and disclosure thereof).

With regards to claims 2 and 16, Klaassen et al disclose that the bias voltage is provided by first and second bipolar transistors (see fig. 3 elements 304-305, and bipolar transistors in fig, 7 –8 and disclosure thereof).

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With regards to claims 3 and 17, Klaassen disclose that the MR head interposes first and second emitters of the bipolar transistors (see fig.7 elements 704,704' 701; fig.8 elements 801, 804,804',804'' and disclosure thereof).

With regards to claims 4 and 18, Klaassen disclose that the source for the bias voltage interposes first and second bases of the bipolar transistors (see bias voltage and bipolar transistors in figs. 3, 7 and 8 and disclosure thereof).

With regards to claims 5 and 19, Klaassen disclose that the change in the bias current employs first and second current sources (see current sources in figs. 7-8 and disclosure thereof).

With regards to claims 6 and 20, Klaassen disclose that the change in bias current provides a proportional differential voltage (see fig. 8 disclosure thereof and col.10 lines 3-18).

With regards to claims 7 and 21, Klaassen disclose that the first and second resistors are employed to develop the proportional differential voltage (See R1 and R2 in figs. 7-8 and disclosure thereof).

With regards to claims 8-14, the method recited in claims 8-14 corresponds to the apparatus recited in claims 1-7 and 15-21, respectively. Therefore the rejection applied to claims 1-7 and 15-21 is also applied to claims 8-14 for the same reasons of anticipation.

#### **Prior Art Cited**

Reference to Ngo (6,226,137) cited as of interest.

Reference to Patti et al (2002/0030916) cited as of interest.

Reference to Takayoshi et al (2003/0227704) cited as of interest.

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### **Response To Remarks**

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Varsha A. Kapadia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7557. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon Tue and Thurs. from 6:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrea Wellington can be reached on 571 272 4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VK



ANDREA WELLINGTON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER